

PFAS Detection Notice

Dear Village of Channahon Water System (IL1970200) Customer,

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) recently tested our water supply for compounds known as Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) as part of a statewide investigation of community water supplies. PFAS are a group of thousands of manmade substances that have been produced in the United States since the 1940s and utilized for a variety of applications ranging from water and stain-proofing to firefighting. Some PFAS have been phased out of production due to environmental and human health concerns, yet they persist in the environment and may contaminate surface and ground waters.

Neither the Illinois EPA nor the U.S. EPA have yet developed enforceable drinking water standards for PFAS. In the interim, Illinois EPA has developed health-based Guidance Levels for the small number of PFAS for which there is appropriate information to do so. There is not enough information available to scientists to develop health-based Guidance Levels for most PFAS. Draft Guidance Levels are intended to be protective of all people consuming the water over a lifetime of exposure. It is important to understand that Draft Guidance Levels are not regulatory limits for drinking water. Rather, the Guidance Levels are benchmarks against which sampling results are compared to determine if additional investigation or other response action is necessary.

Illinois EPA testing has determined that one PFAS was detected in our water system at values greater than or equal to the Illinois EPA health-based Guidance Levels, as provided in the table below.

			Channahon Results (ppt)	Channahon Results (ppt)
PFAS Analyte	Acronym	Guidance Level (ppt)	TP06 Collected 4/19/2021	TP06 Collected 5/4/2021
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	PFBS	2,100	15	14
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	PFHxS	140	2	ND
Perfluorononanoic acid	PFNA	21	ND	ND

Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	PFOS	14	4.9	5.1
Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFOA	2	4.9	5.4
Perfluorohexanoic acid	PFHxA	560,000	13	13
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid	HFPO-DA	560	ND	ND
Perfluoroheptanoic acid	PFHpA	NONE	3.7	3.4

ND = Not Detected

ppt = part per trillion

Our water may contain other PFAS at concentrations greater than or equal to the minimum reporting levels. However, neither the Illinois EPA nor the U.S. EPA currently have Guidance Levels for these additional compounds. PFAS are present in many consumer goods, including food packaging and personal care products, and scientists have found values of PFAS in blood of nearly all individuals tested. Exposure to high levels of PFAS may cause adverse health effects such as increased cholesterol levels, increased risk for thyroid disease, low infant birth weights, reduced response to vaccines, pregnancy-induced hypertension and increased risk of liver and kidney cancer as seen in studies of laboratory animals. Exposure to PFAS above the recommended Guidance Levels does not guarantee that a person will become ill or an adverse health effect will occur. Guidance Levels are conservative estimates. The possible health effects from PFAS are dependent on how much a person is exposed to and how long they are exposed to it. Exposure to PFAS above recommended Guidance Levels for periods of time may mean that a person is at a greater risk of experiencing these adverse effects.

The Village of Channahon is taking measures to respond to the results of this testing. As a proactive measure to inform our customers, the Village is making this public notice to help educate our customers on the potential health effects of PFAS. The Village of Channahon will continue to test its water supply and work to develop a plan to remove the substance from the drinking water.

If you have questions, please contact:

Edward S. Dolezal, P.E.

Director of Public Works

Village of Channahon